

TRUSTS TO FIGHT STATE.

Franchise Valuations Just Fixed Are void They Claim.

GOING TO TEST THE LAW.

War Opens in Rochester and Two Hundred Suits Will Be Brought.

The State Tax Commission has fixed the value of the public franchises operated by the 27 corporations of this city at \$20,573,000, an increase of \$18,000,000. The valuations placed on twelve of the largest concerns show the average increase in the whole.

Corporation	Last assessment	New valuation
Edison R. T. System	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Manhattan Elevated	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Metropolitan Ry. Co.	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Third Ave. System	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Brooklyn R. T. Co.	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Long Island R. Co.	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Brooklyn & Bklyn. R. Co.	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
Brooklyn & Bklyn. R. Co.	\$2,500,000	\$2,750,000
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Totals \$20,573,000. The increase over local assessment, \$18,000,000. Estimated revenue to cities and counties of State from franchise tax \$1,125,000.

ALBANY, April 2.—The corporations of the State have combined to fight the franchise tax. The first gun of the great fight will be fired on Friday, when the State Board will be served with a writ of certiorari by a Rochester corporation with a view of testing the constitutionality of the law in the courts. Rochester will begin the war because the tax district in which that city is situated is the one in which the time for bringing actions of this character first expires. The first step in the fight will be to obtain from the courts a decision as to the proper judicial district in which to bring the proceedings. The State Board will contend that the Third Judicial district is the proper one because the office of the Board is located there. The form of return will then be filed upon and then the general technical part of the legal fight will be entered upon. Before the matter is settled some 200 separate actions will come before the courts.

SUGAR MEN STILL FIGHT.

Mr. Havemeyer Says that a Settlement of the War is Very Doubtful.

A break of 3-2 of a cent was reported today in the price of raw sugar. The reduction was attributed to recent heavy receipts and large supplies on hand. Arduous Bros. are reported to have bought 5,500 bags of raw sugar at the reduced rate. President Havemeyer, of the American Sugar Refining Company, says that his company has made no change in prices of refined sugars. They had not followed the cut in raw, which, he intimated, was almost infinitesimal.

COFFEE TRUST SHUTS DOWN.

Williamsburg Works Closed and Four Hundred Employees Thrown Out of Work.

The American Coffee Company, at the foot of North Second and Third streets, Williamsburg, was shut down this morning. Two hundred and fifty women and 150 men are thrown out of employment. The American Coffee Company's big mill was built two years ago by the Sugar Trust to wipe the Arduous Company out of the coffee business in retaliation for the latter's rate-cutting. Poor business is given as the cause of the shut-down.

THE WORLD NEARLY TREBLE!

1,240 Paid Help Wants in To-Day's World.

430 Paid Help Wants in the 13 Other N. Y. Papers Combined.

AGGREGATION	HOUSEKEEPERS
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"COLORED LADY" WORE THE LAST MOBE COAT.

THE LAST AUTOMOBILE COAT.

No more will the automobile coat flaunt its shape in garish day. For the last time it has ambled, dressed, up and down Broadway.

'Twas the wickedest of garments. And it never knew sweet peace; For it could not get protection Even from New York's police.

So the last one went this morning. Early, ere the light of day; It was on a colored lady Bound for Philadelphia: J. W. L.

The entire detective force of the Tenderloin precinct formed itself into a grievance committee and called on Police Captain Thomas today. The conference was long and mournful, and when they came out of the inside room some of their faces had the scared look of men who have visions of a return to the uniform of a common patrolman. "It's a shame," said the spokesman of the party, mournfully, to an Evening



Star, honey, ain't I the only pobble on the beach, the only kippie on the void, the only mobe coat on Broadway.

World reporter. "The newspapers have gone and taken away our most promising clue." Then, noticing the inquiring look he continued: "You know what I mean—them automobile coats. Why, there ain't one of them coats to be found on a woman's back to-day between this and Yonkers. Ah! I tell you, that was a mighty good clue. "Why, many and many's the night I have gone out and without the aid of a single disguise, struck promising clues everywhere. You know you can spot them two blocks away after a moment. Now they are all gone and we are out of a job. "We was all out detecting last night, and the only coat any of us saw was at Twenty-sixth street and Broadway early this morning, and she was a colored lady who has been out with a 'Lost in Old Kentucky' dramatic company, and just got back to town. She didn't know it was a crime to wear one of them. "Another one of the party chased what he thought was a clue two blocks, but it turned out to be a young fellow in a raglan or ragtime coat, and he had that two blocks of a walk for nothing. "It is a fact the interdicted and crime-conveying garment has folded its flaps like the Arab and has silently stolen

plentiful in the pawnshops as vests in an Eleventh avenue shop during the Summer. Some of the places had signs out: 'No more automobile coats taken.' "I don't care," remarked one young woman with hair like the color of a cable car, after an unsuccessful trip down the line, "I'm going to make like portiere curtains out of mine."

FIGHT AGAINST TRUST FAILS.

Receivers for Big Flour Combine Will Hold On.

An order was filed in the Court of Chancery in Jersey City today, making permanent the appointment of Gen. Samuel Thomas, of this city; Albert C. Loring, of Minneapolis, and Charles E. Kimball, of Summit, N. J., as receivers of the United States Flour and Milling Company, otherwise known as the Flour Trust. The appointment of a temporary receivership was made on Feb. 24. It was objected to by Thomas W. Shackelford, of Superior, Wis., who owned \$75,000 worth of the company's bonds. The plaintiff alleged that the plan of the reorganization of the company was unfair, as its purpose was to protect particular and favored interests at the expense of the minority interests. The right of the reorganization committee to control the new company for a period of years, it was claimed, was unnecessary and oppressive.

RUSSELL BACK IN JAIL.

Recognized by Commissioner Shields as Prisoner Who Escaped from Tamman's Men.

Henry Russell, who was arrested, charged with having robbed the Healey restaurant a week ago, was today sent back to Ludlow Street jail, from which he escaped on July 4, 1898, with two post-office thieves, Allen and Killoran. Russell has denied that he was one of the trio, but United States Commissioner Shields immediately recognized him when arraigned this afternoon in the Federal Court. Two charges of robbing post-offices are pending against him. He was held in \$2,500 bail. The charge of looting the safe in Healey's restaurant could not be proved against him.

THREAT FOR SWEETHEART.

Baltimore News Writes of Murder and Suicide and is Looked Up.

"I'll kill you and then shoot myself," wrote young Elias Whitman, formerly of the Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, to his sweetheart, Leah Batscher, of 183 Cook street, Brooklyn. Leah and Elias were sweethearts before he became a Baltimore hero. Her parents objected to his army maneuvers and forbade him the home. He wrote appeals, then threats. He was held in \$1,000 bail in the Bronx Court today.



Mobe coats are now a drag in the market and a crime on Broadway. So your wise old uncle declines to yield up good shakels for criminal intent.

to institutions of finance designated by three gilt spheroids. Under their arms they carried huge misshapen bundles which they carefully unrolled and then asked in hoarse whispers: "How much on it?"

At noon the quotations ruled very weak indeed and the coats were as



A gambler is safer in New York than a dollar in the Sub-Treasury. He can't be arrested unless he wears a mobe coat.

plentiful in the pawnshops as vests in an Eleventh avenue shop during the Summer. Some of the places had signs out: 'No more automobile coats taken.' "I don't care," remarked one young woman with hair like the color of a cable car, after an unsuccessful trip down the line, "I'm going to make like portiere curtains out of mine."

ANTI-RAMAPO BILL VETOED.

Mayor Contends that City is Safe in Making Contracts.

Mayor Van Wyck today vetoed the anti-Ramapo bill, the aims of which were to restrict the power of the Commissioner of Water Supply in making contracts for the city. In his message the Mayor says: "In an action brought in the Supreme Court under the title of the Press Publishing Company vs. Holahan, involving the determination of the charter proceeding necessary for the city to follow in making a contract for a supply of water from a private company, it has been decided that the administrative officers and administrative departments of the municipality of the city of New York have not the power to acquire a supply of water and furnish it to the inhabitants without authority conferred by previous legislative enactments for that purpose by the Municipal Assembly. "The existing charter provisions, therefore, require that any such contract shall first be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Public Improvements and then adopted by both houses of the Municipal Assembly by the affirmative votes of three-fourths of all the members elected to each house. "The action of the Municipal Assembly is subject to the veto power of the Mayor, and if he vetoes the ordinance or resolution authorizing the contract, the affirmative votes of five-sixths of all the members of each house are necessary to override his veto, and such votes cannot be given until ten days after the veto has been received. "Such an ordinance or resolution cannot, however, be passed at the session of the Municipal Assembly, but must be printed five days before it is finally adopted. "The Mayor tried to point out that the bill was faulty and unnecessary.

SHERIFF AFTER STRIKERS.

Port Chester Labor Troubles May Result in Trouble if Men Don't Cease Demonstrations.

Fully 600 Italians who had been employed by Contractors Merritt and Murray on sewer work in Portchester and the building of the extension of the Portchester electric railway, and who struck yesterday, have so far refused to give in. The strikers have secured the services of several musicians, and are parading the streets shouting at the tops of their voices.

ROUNDS BEGINS WORK.

New Manager of the Third Avenue Railroad Will Reform the System.

Frederick D. Rounds, who was appointed general manager of the Third Avenue Railroad by Receiver Grant, said today: "It will be my endeavor to bring the Third Avenue up to the standard of the Metropolitan system, with which I am familiar, and place it on the basis of a first-class railroad, despite the handicap of a mismanagement of money."

PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND



REV. ELWOOD SCOTT, OF CARTHAGE, IND., WRITES: "My nerves have been so distracted and broken down by overwork that I have had but little rest, pleasure or comfort. I have been obliged to entirely suspend my ministerial labors for nearly a year. Some said try Paine's Celery Compound. I did so, and I am glad to say I am now almost well and have resumed my ministerial duties. I can eat almost any kind of food and digest it without any trouble, and I do not have that harassing pain in my head."

BACK FROM TRIP TO PICK CANAL.

Isthmian Commission Arrived This Morning from Central America.

Rear-Admiral J. G. Walker, Col. H. Ernst, Prof. E. R. Johnson, University of Pennsylvania, and former Senator from Florida Samuel Pasco, of the Isthmian Canal Commission, arrived here this morning on the Atlantic liner steamer Alleghany. The party has been in Central America for the past three months going over the routes of the Nicaragua and the Panama Canals, surveying and securing data as to which route is the most feasible for the United States to build.

Admiral Walker said that while the Commissioners could talk on what they had done while away they could give no forecast as to what their report to Congress would contain. He was asked if the Commission had not found that the Panama route was not the most feasible. "Of course," he said, "a great deal of work has been done on the Panama Canal and the company now have 2,000 men there engaged in pushing the work. The route certainly has its advantages, but so has the other. While a great deal of work has been done on the Panama Canal there yet remains a great deal more to be done. "We have gathered a great mass of facts and figures and it will be some time before the report can be made. There is still much work on the data gathered to be done and we will have to go to work in our office in Washington. "In selection of a route we have to consider the engineering, economic and military questions as well as many other questions."

NERVY SWITCHMAN, THIS.

Derailed a Fast Train by Opening Switch and Thus Averted a Catastrophe.

(Special to The Evening World.) ELLENDALE, Del., April 2.—A terrible railroad accident was averted at this point today through the presence of mind of a tower man who switched a fast passenger train from the track in the nick of time. The train crews and passengers escaped serious hurt, the only injury being that of the fireman, who sprained his leg jumping from his engine. The derailed train, which left Georgetown for Philadelphia at 7:30, was approaching this station at a high rate of speed when another train was about to cross the track at this point. The tower signal man set the block to stop the Georgetown train, but the train sped on. The signal man realized the critical situation and he opened the switch. The engine and one passenger coach left the track, ploughed through the ties for nearly a hundred feet and stopped just short of the crossing road over which the other train rushed at that moment.

SCHOOL BOARD GETS HARD RAP.

Request to Use Building Fund for More Sites Refused.

The Board of Education today asked the Board of Estimate whether \$1,000,000 already allowed for new school buildings could not be made applicable also for the purchase of school sites. The Mayor said the Board of Education had not enough for sites, and that it ought to build the schools it has undertaken first. Comptroller Coker said: "They have more sites than they can build on." The request was denied.

AGREES TO SCHOOL BILL.

Assembly Consents to the Senate Amendments and the Bill Goes to Governor.

ALBANY, April 2.—The Assembly concurred in the Senate amendments to the Ahearn School bill by a strict party vote and the bill goes to the Governor.

SNOW MONEY FOR NAGLE.

Board of Estimate Readily Adds \$125,750 to Commissioner's Removal Fund.

At a meeting of the Board of Estimate held today a request made by Street-Cleaning Commissioner Nagle for two transfers, one of \$125,000 and another of \$25,750 from the sweeping account to meet the cost of removing snow and ice during the recent snow fall, was granted. This money will be put back into the budget again, if necessary, by the issue of revenue bonds.

STRUGGLED FOR DAUGHTER.

Kleiser Tried to Break Into Wife's House to Recover Child.

An excited man created a scene in front of 34 North First street, Williamsburg, this morning. He said his name was Lewis Kleiser and that his wife, who lived in the house, intended to send their three-year-old child, Julia, to Europe today. Admittance to the place was denied the man. He tried to force his way in, and finally became so belligerent that the police forcibly removed him. Later the man explained that he had been separated from his wife for a long time. Her sister was booked to sail on the North German Lloyd steamship Basle from Hoboken this morning, and she intended taking little Julia with her. Kleiser said they were trying to steal his child away from him. He would go to the Hoboken pier and secure possession of his daughter by force, he declared.

MOLINEUX IS A REAL STOIC.

Poisoner a Marvel to His Keepers in Sing Sing.

The stoicism of Roland R. Molineux excites as much wonder in Sing Sing prison as it did in the Tombs. Though he has been two months in the death-house, not once has he given a sign of weakening. Though apparently stolidly indifferent to his surroundings, he is always cheerful. Even when his wife and mother call he never gives way to outbursts of feeling. The prison officials say he is the most optimistic prisoner they have ever known. That he is hopeful cannot be doubted, and he looks forward with confidence to the time when the Court of Appeals will grant him a new trial. He has not the slightest doubt of the issue.

Just now the prisoner is reading Dickens's "Two Cities." He follows the somber narrative with the same interest he showed when reading "Les Miserables." When tired of reading he still continues his studies in mathematics. Molineux's wife and mother will continue to live in Sing Sing till his fate is settled. They call as often as the prison regulations will permit. Gen. Molineux pays two visits a week to his son, going up from Brooklyn.

Messrs. Weeks & Battle hope to have their appeal ready to argue at the June term of court, which meets in Saratoga. If so, Molineux should know his fate within ninety days. If the Appellate Court should decide against him Gov. Roosevelt will be asked to pardon Molineux or commute his sentence. If necessary the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court.

TO CLEAN NURSERY BOTTLES.

After the bottles have been used, rinse in thoroughly in warm water; then fill with warm water containing a teaspoonful of Gold Dust Washing Powder and let it stand over night. One bottle will clean a dozen bottles. Rinse through clean water several times. Gold Dust is much more effective than soap to clean them, as it removes all spots and keeps clinging to the sides of the bottles.

The above is taken from our free booklet sent free on request to THE N. C. PARSONS COMPANY, Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston.

MERCHANT'S SON HURT BY A FALL.

George Stratford Found with Skull Broken in Jersey City.

George Stratford, thirty-five years old, of 574 Garfield avenue, Jersey City, son of a well-known merchant, was found with his skull fractured early this morning at Bramhall and Ocean avenues, Jersey City. Policeman Rooney was patrolling Ocean avenue, near St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, when he stumbled across the prostrate body. Stratford was lying on his back with his head on the ground. A dictionary will help you spell out words, but World Wants more than that.

75c. Weekly! 75c. Weekly!

OPENS AN ACCOUNT JORDAN, MORIARTY & CO. OPENS AN ACCOUNT

155, 157 AND 159 EAST 23D ST., 2 Doors West of 3d Ave., New York.

Phenomenal Furniture Values.

This week's offerings are exceptionally strong in values. In fact, you will not find their equal in any other house in Greater New York.



Handsome 5-piece Mahogany Frame Parlor Suit, inlaid with French Marqueterie and pearls, covered with fine quality silk tapestry or satin damask; well upholstered, best steel tempered springs, cannot be equalled elsewhere for less than \$75.00; our special price for this sale \$43.75

Enamelled Iron Bedstead, like cut, costs this week only \$5.99

Morris Chairs in Golden Oak or Mahogany, velvet cushions, really worth \$20.00, special \$5.99

Large Size Couch like cut, costs this week only \$9.99

Has heavy posts, brass rods, solid cast brass vases and extended foot rail, cannot be equalled elsewhere for less than \$9.00.

Large Heavy Solid Oak Extension Table, finely polished, has 5 heavy roped turned legs, strong and easy working, really worth \$10.00; here this week \$6.75

No Mail Orders filled for advertising specials.

Carpet Offerings. Tapestry Brussels, good grade, usually worth 90c. yd., 59c. Veil, fine quality, usually sold at \$1.00 yd., 73c.

Open Saturdays Until 9 P. M.

The New Flavor

of the new Veronese Biscuit has set all bakers wondering. It's a flavor that causes wonderment everywhere. Veronese Biscuit are delicately light; palatably sweet; delightful with fruits or desserts—satisfying all alone. In large or small packages—a package that keeps them always fresh and crisp.

Veronese Biscuit

"Housework is hard work without Gold Dust"

TO CLEAN NURSERY BOTTLES. After the bottles have been used, rinse in thoroughly in warm water; then fill with warm water containing a teaspoonful of Gold Dust Washing Powder and let it stand over night. One bottle will clean a dozen bottles. Rinse through clean water several times. Gold Dust is much more effective than soap to clean them, as it removes all spots and keeps clinging to the sides of the bottles.

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DR. BRADFORD'S COMPOUND COTTON ROOT PILLS

positively remove the most obstinate female irregularities, obstructions, etc., from any cause, in 10 days. Price, 25c. Guaranteed a powerful, harmless, pleasant-tasting, and always successful. Call at once or send for Letter Booklet, containing full particulars and testimonials, to DR. BRADFORD CO., 24 West 24th St., N. Y. Telephone 1010. House, Open Every Day.